

Psychiatry definition, the practice or science of diagnosing and treating mental disorders. See more.

Alexithymia refers to an inability to identify and describe emotions in the self. Alice in Wonderland syndrome In Alice in Wonderland experience, individuals perceive objects including animals and other humans, or parts of humans, animals, or objects as appearing substantially smaller than in reality. Generally, the object appears far away or extremely close at the same time. Alternate term for this is somaesthetic aura. Also see Lilliputian hallucinations Main article: Alliteration Alliteration is the repetition of initial consonant sounds in neighbouring words. For example, "When I struck and slapped my humble horse, he began to run rapidly. The term may refer to either "poverty of speech" or "poverty of thought". In the former, speech, though adequate in verbiage, conveys very little information and may consist of stock phrases or vague references. In poverty of thought, by contrast, there is a far-reaching impoverishment of the entire thinking of the patient, who, as a result, says very little. It is typically a negative symptom of schizophrenia , [1] although it may also be seen in advanced dementia. Running amok The phrase "running amok" describes the behavior of an individual, who is very agitated and can become a danger to others and himself. Anhedonia Anhedonia refers to an inability to experience pleasure, and may be described as a feeling of emotional emptiness. Anosognosia Anosognosia is a condition in which a person who suffers certain disability seems unaware of the existence of his or her disability. Hemiasomatognosia is a subtype of anosognosia in which the person suffering from hemiplegia neglects one half of his body. Anton-Babinski syndrome Anton syndrome , occasionally known as Anton-Babinski syndrome, is a form of cortical blindness in which the patient denies the visual impairment. The patient may attempt to walk, bumping into objects and injuring himself. Anton syndrome is caused by damaging the occipital lobes bilaterally or from disrupting the pathway from the primary visual cortex into the visual association cortex. Anwesenheit[edit] Anwesenheit refers to the feeling of presence of something or some person. It can be seen in normal grief reaction, schizophrenia and some emotionally arousing situations. Apophanous perception[edit] This is an alternate term for delusional perception. It is one of the Schneiderian first rank symptoms and is defined as a true perception, to which a patient attributes a false meaning. For example, a person may see written "No Trespassing" on a board and may infer from this that intelligence agencies are spying on him. Aphemia[edit] Aphemia is the alternate term for mutism. Mutism is absence of speech with apparently normal level of consciousness. Mutism can be dissociative hysterical in which an individual commonly a child or adolescent stops speaking at once without involvement of any neurological or physical contributing factor; or it can be elective selective in which a child does not speak at all in certain situations such as in school but speaks well in other conditions like at home or at play. A rare cause of mutism is akinetic mutism which results due to a lesion around 3rd ventricle of brain. Apperception[edit] Apperception is a normal phenomenon and refers to the ability to understand sensory inputs in their context, to interpret them and to incorporate them into experience. Failure of apperception is seen in delirious states. Astasia-abasia Astasia-abasia is a form of psychogenic gait disturbance in which gait becomes impaired in the absence of any neurological or physical pathology. The person usually walks in a bizarre manner. He staggers and appears as if going to fall but always manages to catch hold of something in time. Sometimes these people cannot even stand but on the other hand they are well able to move their legs while lying down or sitting. Often associated with conversion disorder or somatization disorder. Asyndesis[edit] Alternate term for loosening of association. A milder form of derailment of thought, it is marked by the patient leaping from topic to topic which have only the most tenuous, if any, connection with each other. See also Entgleisen term introduced by Cameron. Originally, Eugen Bleuler used this term to describe schizophrenia. In general, it refers to any pathological tendency to be self-absorbed to such a degree that the feelings, thoughts and desires of a person are governed by his internal apprehension of the world and not by an external reality shared with others. Today the term is used most often to refer to a specific developmental syndrome see autism spectrum. See also Dereistic thinking. More generally, it means thinking that is guided by internal wishes and desires regardless of external real-world factors. Delusional intuition Jaspers defined this as a delusion arising without

apparent cause. For example, suddenly, without apparent cause, having the delusional belief that you are an alien.

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Chapter 3 : Dictionary of Psychology - Oxford Reference

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